

**Claims:**

For the expressed purpose of expediting the patent process and the issuance of a patent, cancel all claims of record without prejudice or disclaimer and add new claims 16 to 34 as follows.

Claims 1-15 (canceled)

Claim 16 (new): An intelligent agent for informing network nodes of one or more events associated with a website comprising:

- (a) a set of rules to which said intelligent agent refers for its operation,
- (b) first means for said intelligent agent detecting that said events have occurred,
- (c) second means for said intelligent agent discerning one or more network nodes with which to communicate,
- (d) third means for said intelligent agent notifying said network nodes about said events, and
- (e) fourth means for said network nodes receiving and processing the notification of said events whereby said network nodes obtain notification of said events associated with said website in a timely and organized manner.

Claim 17 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 16 wherein one or more of said network nodes respond to the notifications by said intelligent agent.

Claim 18 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 16 wherein said intelligent agent informs network nodes of events associated with a subset of said website.

Claim 19 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 16 wherein said intelligent agent informs network nodes of events relating to the content of said website.

Claim 20 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 16 wherein the network communication is performed in a secured manner.

Claim 21 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 16 wherein said intelligent agent operates on a portable device.

Claim 22 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 16 wherein a plurality of said intelligent agents is associated with said website.

Claim 23 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 16 wherein said intelligent agent is associated with a plurality of said websites.

Claim 24 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 16 wherein said intelligent agent performs an operation from the group consisting of filtering, blocking, enhancing, reformatting and modifying information.

Claim 25 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 16 wherein the network communication is oriented towards e-commerce.

Claim 26 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 16 wherein the network communication is oriented towards digital rights management.

Claim 27 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 16 wherein said intelligent agent also comprises a means for activating said intelligent agent to operate on behalf of a website.

Claim 28 (new): An intelligent agent for informing network nodes of one or more events associated with a database comprising:

- (a) a set of rules to which said intelligent agent refers for its operation,
- (b) first means for said intelligent agent detecting that said events have occurred,
- (c) second means for said intelligent agent discerning one or more network nodes with which to communicate,
- (d) third means for said intelligent agent notifying said network nodes about said events and
- (e) fourth means for said network nodes receiving and processing the notification of said events whereby said network nodes obtain notification of said events associated with said database in a timely and organized manner.

Claim 29 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 28 wherein said intelligent agent performs an operation from the group consisting of filtering, blocking, enhancing, reformatting and modifying information.

Claim 30 (new): An intelligent agent for informing network nodes of one or more events associated with a network presence comprising:

- (a) a set of rules to which said intelligent agent refers for its operation,
- (b) first means for said intelligent agent detecting that said events have occurred,

- (c) second means for said intelligent agent discerning one or more network nodes with which to communicate,
- (d) third means for said intelligent agent notifying said network nodes about said events, and
- (e) fourth means for said network nodes receiving and processing the notification of said events whereby said network nodes obtain notification of said events associated with said network presence in a timely and organized manner.

Claim 31 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 30 wherein the network communication is performed in a secured manner.

Claim 32 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 30 wherein the network communication is oriented towards e-commerce.

Claim 33 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 30 wherein the network communication is oriented towards digital rights management.

Claim 34 (new): The intelligent agent of Claim 30 wherein said intelligent agent performs an operation from the group consisting of filtering, blocking, enhancing, reformatting and modifying information.